

CONFERENCE REPORT



2019 International Conference on Tackling Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Public Sector Supply Chains

27th March, 2019

Queen Elizabeth II Centre, London, UK

Executive Summary

In every country around the world, governments procure goods and services from suppliers with complex and far-reaching supply chains, where there is often a risk of modern slavery. Yet few governments have ethical standards to manage this risk in their procurement activity. Government procurement accounts for an average of 15% or more of a country's GDP¹. Because of the scale and scope of public procurement, governments and public bodies have considerable leverage to mitigate modern slavery risk and to drive improved responsible business practices among their suppliers.

¹ https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/20y_e/gpa_brochure2015_e.pdf

Leading governments are beginning to take action. In September 2017, the UK government spearheaded a Call to Action on Modern Slavery at the General Assembly. 85 countries have now signed up to this. A year later in 2018, at the UN General Assembly, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the USA made a joint public commitment to eradicating modern slavery from their global supply chains. Four Principles were agreed, harnessing a combined purchasing power of more than \$600bn² central spending.

- Governments should take steps to prevent and address human trafficking in government procurement practices
- Governments should encourage the private sector to prevent and address human trafficking in its supply chains
- Governments should advance responsible recruitment policies and practices
- Governments should strive for harmonisation

The International Conference on Tackling Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Public Sector Supply Chains was a flagship forum to generate momentum on these commitments. It was designed to highlight examples of good practice, generate conversations among national and local governments, procurement specialists, supplier companies and civil society actors on how to translate principles into action, identify the policies, systems, skills and resources needed to make progress, and to build networks for greater collaboration.

Overview of Conference

- Co-hosted by the Ethical Trading Initiative, the UK government and the OSCE, in partnership with the Australian, Canadian, New Zealand, and USA governments.
- Over 170 attendees – representing national and local governments, international bodies, civil society organisations, public procurement specialists, private sector companies, trade unions, academics and independent experts.
- Fifty speakers – including policy makers, experts, practitioners and activists from around the world, sharing examples of good practice, lessons learnt and challenges.
- Feedback from an evaluation survey at the end of the conference showed 99% of attendees reporting that they found the conference useful. 99% also said that it had enabled them to learn from others and share expertise, experiences and ideas about tackling modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking in their sector. 96% reported that their understanding of the role of public bodies in responsible procurement had significantly increased as a result of this conference.

Some quotes from attendees:

“There was a fantastic range of speakers and it was very inspiring and encouraging to hear that we are all trying to collaborate locally, nationally and internationally”

“I am somewhat new to public procurement, so this was immensely helpful and useful”

“Fascinating set of broad ranging discussions”

“Excellent speakers. A good mix of government officials, businesses, civil society and academia”

² Available figures indicate the combined recorded spend of these five countries is \$2.5trillion annually, but this excludes public spending that is not centrally tracked.

Key Messages

- Legislation on due diligence, ethical recruitment, and transparency in supply chains has been a game-changer for businesses, bringing these issues into their boardrooms.
- Governments should use their very significant purchasing power: they have considerable influence over their suppliers and can use this leverage to drive change in the private sector.
- Governments should hold themselves to the same standards as they expect of the private sector - to manage, mitigate and prevent the risks of modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking in their operations and supply chains.
- Policy commitments need to be translated into action through collaborative, multi-stakeholder approaches.

High-Risk Sectors

Four high-risk sectors supplying to the public sector were focused on during the conference:

1. [Construction](#)
2. [Electronics](#)
3. [General manufacturing](#)
4. [Healthcare](#)

In addition, the conference featured the important role and examples of good practice from public bodies including devolved local councils, regional administrations, local governments, municipalities and other public institutions such as universities.

The one-day conference contained plenary sessions to highlight the key issues and share examples of good practice. The afternoon was devoted to practical workshops to enable participants to dig deeper, share successes, challenges and network with one another to identify opportunities for collaboration. The conference sought to build a common understanding of what is needed to drive progress with a focus on solutions rather than problems, and to develop a set of recommendations for the way forward.

Recommendations

1. **We need to address the gap between policy and implementation.**
 - **Policies should be sensitive to sector-specific needs.** A policy that is effective in one sector might or might not be successful in another. There is a need to communicate better with actors directly involved in business and to investigate different dimensions of human trafficking and modern slavery risks so as not to approach the issue as a 'tick box exercise'.
 - **Procurement contract provisions must be monitored and enforced.** Due diligence should be integrated into every stage of the procurement process, and

the right incentives should be set in procurement criteria. Public bodies can inadvertently create unfair competition by not following up on contracts. It is important to reward suppliers who better manage risk, and to get rid of 'reverse auctions' or similar mechanisms that incentivize suppliers to take greater risks with their supply chains.

- **Codes of conduct are important** because they give businesses a tool to support change. However, they cannot drive change on their own and must be complemented with other strategies, actions and partnerships.
- **Audits can help to document some issues**, but they are only a snapshot in time and can be faked. It is important to meaningfully engage workers directly, where possible involving independent, democratic trade unions.

2. **Increased collaboration is key.**

- **Between the public and private sector:** sharing of tools and guidance developed by the public sector with the private sector and vice-versa would be effective in improving standards, harmonise messages and approaches with suppliers, and could contribute to better measures of impact.
- **Within the private sector:** collaboration across the private sector can tackle systemic issues in a sector, industry or jurisdiction in a more cost-effective and sustainable way. It could also focus efforts on businesses and suppliers that most need collective leverage and support to effect the changes needed. Business models are key – companies cannot be allowed to drive a race to the bottom in labour standards through poor and unfair purchasing practices.
- **Between procurement officials/teams:** procurement professionals in a public body or company can work more closely with others in their organisations to ensure that commercial bids and contracting systems include requirements for transparency and evidence of preventing and mitigating modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking risks in the goods and services they procure. They can also develop procurement partnerships to increase their leverage with suppliers, align systems and share lessons.
- **Between procurement officials and modern slavery policy experts:** coming from very different worlds there needs to be more effort in building working relationships between these two groups to complement one another to achieve greater impact.
- **With trade unions:** they play a key role in preventing and tackling labour rights abuses and exploitation in workplaces, across sectors, at national and international levels. They provide a vehicle through which workers can be organized to collectively negotiate the terms and conditions of their work with their employers, including wages, working hours, health and safety, discrimination and resolving grievances.
- **With civil society organisations, the media and academics:** they conduct investigations, expose the realities of forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking, campaign on behalf of vulnerable workers, represent their interests and provide them with critical services.
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3. **Open data sharing** on best practices and expertise should be promoted across sectors, as well as between businesses, civil society and government. Framework agreements in

specific sectors could set common standards, including data sharing, which could be valuable in driving change up and down the supply chain.

- **Specific attention should be given to creating conditions for transparency and a “safe space” in which information and data can be shared.** Sharing credible data and evidence and between the private sector, governments and other actors using trusted interlocutors such as multi-stakeholder initiatives, can enable collaboration without compromising commercially sensitive information. Guidelines for sharing information could help to establish trust and mutual expectations on what remains confidential, what is shared with whom and for what purpose.
 - **A knowledge database for procurers** to review best practice and lessons learned would be extremely valuable. In addition, guidance is needed from local and regional governments on what procurement policies and processes should include to mitigate modern slavery, forced labour and trafficking.
4. **Public buyers need to move beyond passively receiving information and be more proactive in examining supply chains**, pushing for remediation and supporting structural change in the private sector. There is a weak understanding of what due diligence entails in public procurement, and responsibilities for prevention and remediation of modern slavery have not been clearly articulated.
 5. **Relevant procurement specialists need to be adequately trained on supply chain issues:** in some cases they may not have the skills to analyse risk or assess the quality of information they are given. Procurement staff should be trained in how to follow up on the information they receive, to monitor on-going delivery and to challenge suppliers that are not responsive. Addressing modern slavery risk should be integrated into job descriptions and KPIs. Officials and suppliers should be made aware of the potential for political fallout and commercial consequences if compliance standards are not improved.
 6. **Price matters.** Social value should be taken into account in the award of government contracts and the amount a company spends on due diligence in their supply chains should be factored in to contracts. Some companies that carry out due diligence have lost contracts because their prices are higher as a result of due diligence and ensuring that they pay for higher labour standards in their supply chains. There is not yet enough of a commercial imperative for responsible suppliers to be rewarded for higher standards, or for unscrupulous businesses to lose business.
 7. **More focus is needed on SMEs.** They can be small but work on large contracts, or work at the lower end of supply chains. There are great opportunities for SMEs to innovate, which can lead to improvements, and they have the ability to engage more with their suppliers. Governments should put resources into developing an infrastructure to advise and assist SMEs, particularly to build the capacity of businesses that do not know how to identify or manage modern slavery risks.
 8. **Compliance requirements should be harmonized.** For example, by asking suppliers once for what they are doing to comply with legislative requirements and contracting expectations. This should reduce their time and cost burdens, promote collaboration, and prevent duplication of compliance requirements (e.g. audits from every customer).

9. **New models should be explored** to build common approaches to contracting with financial incentives and pressures to comply with requirements. For example, contract clauses could be developed that would expose the buyer as well as the supplier to financial and reputational consequences should they be found to benefit from or directly utilise forced labour. Scoping and guidance on how this could work / has worked in some cases would be helpful.
10. **Procurement officials should have a zero-tolerance approach to inaction on forced labour,** but be conscious of not driving practices underground. This includes a focus on outcomes of actions for vulnerable workers rather than activities themselves.
11. **Cross-government procurement guidance** and practical tools are needed to develop ethical and outcome-based procurement systems. This could include setting up collaborative operational monitoring, efficiently resourced with key performance indicators and staff expertise. Agreeing a common set of ethical standards against which companies could benchmark their actions (such as the ETI Base Code and Principles of Implementation) may be an effective way to drive real change.
12. **Businesses and clients should be encouraged to deliver and participate in training on modern slavery** so they can better support procurement teams and other actors along the supply chain.

ANNEX 1:

AGENDA

International Conference on Tackling Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Public Sector Supply Chains

Challenges and solutions from the public, private, international and non-governmental organisations in high-risk sectors.

Wednesday, 27 March 2019, 9am - 6pm
The Queen Elizabeth II Centre
Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, London SW1P 3EE



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| 08.30 – 09.00 | Registration and Networking |
| 09:00 – 09:15 | Opening Speech Becky Kirby, Director, Tackling Slavery and Exploitation, Home Office |

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| 09:15 – 10:15 | <p>HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY 1: International and National Approaches in Addressing Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Public Procurement</p> <p><u>Conference co-hosts</u></p> <p>Session Chair: Cindy Berman, Head of Modern Slavery Strategy, The Ethical Trading Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Val Richey, Acting Coordinator, Office of the Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings • Dr Bradley Armstrong PSM, First Assistant Secretary, Trade and Customs Division, Australia • Julie Robertson, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Corrections, New Zealand • Leigh Anne de Wine, Senior Advisor, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons Office, State Department, USA • Leilla Cranfield, High Commission of Canada International organisations • Beate Andrees, Branch Chief, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch, ILO • Kenza Khachan, Policy Analyst on Public Procurement, OECD |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | <p><u>PLENARY 2</u>: Sharing Promising Procurement Practice in High-Risk Sectors</p> <p>Session Chair: Axel Threlfall, Reuters Editor-at-Large</p> <p>Opening Speakers: Baroness Young of Hornsey, UK House of Lords Giles Bolton, Responsible Sourcing Director, Tesco and ETI Board Member</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>PLENARY 2</u>: Sharing Promising Procurement Practice in High-Risk Sectors</p> |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | <p>Local Government, Regional Government and Devolved Administrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pauline Göthberg National Coordinator, Social Responsibility in Public Procurement, Swedish County Councils and Regions • Natalie Evans, Responsible Procurement Manager, City of London • Fiori Zafeiropoulou, Pilot Project leader, City of Athens, Greece |
| 10:50 – 11:10 | Coffee / Tea Break |
| 11:15 – 11:25 | Keynote speech – Victoria Atkins MP, Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability, Home Office |
| 11:25 – 11:45 | <p>Construction sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambet Yuson, General Secretary, Building Workers International • Dr Sue Hurrell, Special Projects Manager, Welsh Government • Sam Ulyatt, Commercial Director, Crown Commercial Services |

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| 11:45 – 12:05 | <p>Electronics sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olga Martin-Ortega, Professor of Public International Law, University of Greenwich • Don Bowman, Director, London University Purchasing Consortium • Carlos Busquets, Director of Public Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, Responsible Business Alliance |
| 12:05 – 12:25 | <p>Health care products and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenny Ahlstrom, Senior Advisor, Public Procurement and Human Rights, DiFi, Norway • Dr. Mahmood Bhutta, British Medical Association and Consultant ENT surgeon • Julien Rolland, Business Area and Sourcing Director, OneMed |
| 12:25 – 12:50 | <p>General Manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francis Omare, Senior Director, Strategy and Execution, SAP • Marilyn Croser, Director, CORE Coalition • Tim Rudin, Transport for London, London Mayor’s Office |
| 12:50 – 13:00 | Keynote speech – Oliver Dowden, Minister for Implementation, Cabinet Office |
| 13.00-13:45 | Lunch Break |
| 13:45 – 15:00 | <p>BREAKOUT SESSION 1</p> <p>The focus of these closed-door sessions will be peer learning and sharing, with short case studies</p> |
| Victoria Room | <p>Construction</p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u> Samantha Ireland, Lead on Construction Protocol, Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Blythe, Chief Executive, Chartered Institute of Building • Neill Wilkins, Head of Migrant Workers Programme, Institute for Human Rights and Business • • Jessica Verdon, Multiplex |
| Albert Room | <p>Electronics</p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u> Olga Martin-Ortega, University of Greenwich</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Pawlicki, Director of Outreach and Education, Electronics Watch • Aleyne Johnson, Director of Government and External Relations, Samsung • Emma Fletcher, Advanced Procurement for Universities & Colleges, Scotland |

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| Olivia Room | <p>Healthcare products and services</p> <p><u>Session Chair</u>: Cindy Berman, ETI</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Toomey, NHS Supply Chain • Karamat Ali, Executive Director, Pakistan Institute for Labour Education and Research • Andrew Davies, Human Rights Lead, Association of British HealthTech Industries |
| Burton Room | <p>General manufacturing</p> <p><u>Session Chair</u>: Marilyn Croser, CORE (tbc)</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darryl Dixon, Director of Strategy, Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority • Daniel Morris, Special Advisor, Danish Institute for Human Rights • David Gigg, Crown Commercial Service |
| Gielgud Room | <p>Local Government, municipalities, regional governments and devolved authorities</p> <p><u>Session Chair</u>: Michael Drew, Home Office</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Russell, Northern Ireland Human Rights Council • Councillor Alan Rhodes, Nottinghamshire County Council • Daria Cibrario, Policy Officer, Local and Regional Governments, Public Services International • Dr. Caroline Emberson, Research Fellow, Rights Lab, University of Nottingham |
| 15.00-15:30 | Coffee / Tea Break |
| 15:30 – 16:45 | <p>BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Stakeholder Forums (open, peer learning and sharing)</p> |
| Victoria Room | <p>Government, Legislation and Policy Makers</p> <p><u>Session Chair</u>: Ruth Pojman</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bradley Armstrong, First Assistant Secretary, Trade and Customs, Australia • Leigh-Anne de Wine, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons Office, State Department, USA • Herakles Moskoff, National Rapporteur on Human Trafficking, Greece • Michael Drew, Head of Prevention, Modern Slavery Unit, UK |
| Albert Room | <p>Government – National and Local Public Procurement Officials</p> <p><u>Session Chair</u>: Pauline Göthberg, Swedish County Councils and Regions</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porter Glock, Office of Budget Management, USA • Julie Robertson, Chief Procurement Officer, Dept of Corrections, New Zealand • Jenny Ahlstrom, Senior Advisor, Public Procurement and Human Rights, DiFi, Norway • Carla Canal Rosich, Policy Manager, Barcelona City Council |

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| Olivia Room | <p>International Organisations</p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u> OSCE – Val Richey</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radu Cucos, Organisation for Security Cooperation in Europe • Caroline Nicholson, UN Office of Legal Affairs (UNCITRAL) – by phone • Caitlin Helfrich, International Labour Organisation • Lucy McQueen, Department for International Development |
| Burton Room | <p>Non-governmental/Trade Union Actors and Advocates</p> <p><u>Session Chair:</u> Rachel Wilshaw, Ethical Trade Manager, Oxfam</p> <p>Case studies followed by informal table discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gemma Freedman, UNISON • Sian Lea, Shiva Foundation • Melysa Sperber, Humanity United |
| Gielgud Room | <p>Private Sector Procurement and Supply Chain Managers</p> <p><u>Session Chair and Presenter:</u> Steve Gibbons, Director, Ergon Associates</p> <p>Facilitated informal table discussions, identifying key messages and recommendations</p> |
| 16:45 – 17:15 | <p>Short summaries of group discussions – key messages and recommendations</p> |
| 17:15 – 17:30 | <p>Closing Speech:</p> <p>Sir Philip Rutnam, Permanent Secretary, Home Office</p> |

ANNEX 2:

CONFERENCE FEEDBACK SUMMARY

The following results are taken from the evaluation forms distributed at the Conference.

99% of attendees at the Conference stated that they found the event **useful**.

96% of attendees reported that their **understanding** of the role of public bodies in responsible procurement **increased** as a result of this Conference. Attendees particularly praised the range of speakers and guests in attendance, sharing their appreciation for the opportunity to collaborate across sectors and internationally.

- *There was a fantastic range of speakers and it was very inspiring and encouraging to hear that we are all trying to collaborate*
- *I am somewhat new to public procurement, so this was immensely helpful and useful*
- *Fascinating set of broad ranging discussions*
- *Excellent speakers and good mix of government officials, business and academia*

99% of attendees reported that the conference enabled them to **learn** from others and **share** expertise, experiences and ideas about tackling modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking **in their sector**.

- *I definitely enjoyed the opportunity to network and share best practice, challenges and experience - very useful*
- *The ability to share best practice and ideas was invaluable*
- *A great balance of information from panels, networking and interactive sessions*

97% of attendees expanded and strengthened their professional network through meeting with peers and new people, and **96%** have gained additional insights on how to **improve** the action against Modern Slavery, forced labour and human trafficking in the public sector as a result of this Conference.

When asked what one thing they would do differently due to attendance at the Conference answers ranged from:

Using **tools** or **guidance** discussed at the Conference, such as ETI's Managing Risks Associated with Modern Slavery; improving **training** for suppliers and staff; engaging more with **Trade Unions**; and improving **communications** and **information sharing**.

When asked for suggestions for future events:

The majority of responses were positive statements about the Conference and requests for more to be held. Other suggestions included expanding the invite list; sending the list of attendees out ahead of the event; holding more breakout sessions, including more facilitated learning sessions, and more opportunities for knowledge sharing.

ANNEX 3:

LIST OF ATTENDEES

| Name / Title / Organisation | Name / Title / Organisation |
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| Jenny Åhlström, Senior Advisor, Agency for Public Management and eGovernment (Difi) | Owain Johnstone, Modern Slavery Advisor, ETI |
| Tanvir Ahmed | Claire Jones, Policy Adviser, Cabinet Office |
| Moushami Aktar, Corporate Development Officer, MOPAC | Eddi Jones, Supplier Process & Reporting Manager, Airwave Solutions |
| Matthew Alford, Lecturer, University of Manchester | Elaine Jones, Consultant and Trainer in Ethical Trade, ETI Trainer |
| Karamat Ali, Executive Director, Pakistan Institute for Labour Education and Research | Mye Kallander, Training Coordinator, ETI |
| Fareed Amir, Policy, Home Office | Kenza Khachani, Procurement expert, OECD |
| Eric Anderson, Senior Consultant, Human Rights, BT | Helen King, Senior Legal Assistant, KBR |
| Beate Andrees, Chief of Branch, ILO | Julia Kinniburgh, Director General, Serious and Organised Crime, Home Office |
| Ursula Antwi-Boasiako, FCO | Rebecca Kirby, Director, Tackling Slavery and Exploitation, Home Office |
| Bradley Armstrong, First Assistant Secretary - Trade and Customs, Department of Home Affairs | Anna-Lena Klassen, Senior Policy Officer, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| Richard Barnes, Head of Public Sector Development, Virgin Media | Aygen Kurt-Dickson, Research Development Manager, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) |
| Didier Bergeret, Director Social Sustainability & SSCI, The Consumer Goods Forum | Annamaria La Chimia, Professor, University of Nottingham |
| Cindy Berman, Head of Modern Slavery Strategy, ETI | Carl Langley, Procurement Head of Policy, Fujitsu |
| Mahmood Bhutta, Founder British Medical Association and Consultant ENT Surgeon, BMA | Guggi Laryea, Senior Manager - Stakeholder Engagement, Amfori |
| Ricarda Bieke, Responsible Procurement Manager, APUC Ltd | Mushtaq Lasharie CBE, Chairman, Third World Solidarity |
| Phoebe Blagg, Policy, Home Office | Daniel Lawson, Responsible Procurement Officer, City of London Corporation |

| Name / Title / Organisation | Name / Title / Organisation |
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| Sarah Boardman, FCO | James Lee, CSR Researcher, NQC Ltd. |
| Giles Bolton, Responsible Sourcing Director, Tesco | Katherine Lewthwaite, Policy, Home Office |
| Caio Borges, Coordinator, Conectas | Francesca Livesey, Senior Policy Implementation Specialist, Crown Commercial Service |
| Don Bowman, Director, LUPC | Naoya Maeda, Legal Attaché, Embassy of Japan in the UK |
| Ellen Bridge, Intern, FCO | Tanya Malik, Commercial Compliance Specialist, NHS England |
| Jane Bristow, Crown Representative, Cabinet Office | Alison Marston, Director of Public Affairs and Social Impact, FSI Worldwide |
| Katharine Bryant, Manager- Global Research, Walk Free Foundation | Hope Martin, Senior Policy Advisor, Cabinet Office |
| Carlos Busquets, Director of Public Policy, Responsible Business Alliance | Olga Martin-Ortega, Reader in Public International Law, University of Greenwich |
| Martin Buttle, Strategic Lead: General Merchandise, ETI | Stephen McClelland, ILO Liaison, ILO |
| Melanie Cain, Commercial Policy Team Leader, Ministry of Defence | Gavin McCullagh, Policy, Home Office |
| Phil Caldwell, Senior Commercial Analyst, Cabinet Office | Lucy McQueen, Policy Advisor, DFID |
| Steve Canadine, Development Director, UK & Europe, Mottmac | Craig Melson, Programme Manager ,Techuk |
| Carla Canal Rosich, Project manager Policy Coherence for Development, Direction of Global Justice and International Cooperation, Barcelona city council, Spain | Hannah Mills, Principal Social Safeguards Consultant, Mott MacDonald |
| Patricia Carrier, Project Manager, Modern Slavery Registry, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre | Lucy Moody, Head of Policy, Strategy and Assurance, Home Office Commercial Directorate |
| Claire Catchpole, Group Procurement Planning & Performance Manager, Babcock International | Daniel Morris, Adviser, Danish Institute for Human Rights |
| Jaya Chakrabarti MBE, CEO, tiscreport | Eilidh Morrison, Student, University of Edinburgh |
| Benafsha Charlick-Delgado, Senior Programme Manager, UN Global Compact Network, UK | Heracles Moskoff, Greek National Rapporteur on THB, Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings |
| Lauren Charlton, Assistant Commercial Officer - Social Value, Home Office | Laure Mottet-Gauthier, Assistant General Counsel, Regulatory, PMI |
| Daria Cibrario, Policy Officer, LRG and MNEs, PSI | Alice Naish, Procurement Category Manager, G4S |

| Name / Title / Organisation | Name / Title / Organisation |
|---|--|
| Marisol Corredor Bernal, Responsible Procurement Officer, LUPC | Frank Omare, Senior Director, SAP UK |
| Leilla Cranfield, Second Secretary, Canadian High Commission | Dipti Pardeshi |
| Marilyn Croser, Director, CORE Coalition | Eleni Pasdeki-Clewer, Sustainable Procurement Manager, NHS England |
| Radu Cucos, Associate Officer on CTHB, OSCE | Charlie Patterson, Intern, FCO |
| Paul Davenport, Development Director, Government, Mitie | Harpreet Paul, UK Representative, Electronics Watch |
| Andy Davies, Procurement Manager, Natural History Museum | Peter Pawlicki, Director of Outreach and Education, Electronics Watch |
| Martin Davies, Head of International and Immigration, BMA | Vineta Polatside, Head of TF-THB Unit, Council of the Baltic Sea States |
| Alan De'Ath, Intern, FCO | Mark Polglase, Lead Category Manager, Public Health England |
| Leigh Anne DeWine, Senior Advisor, US State Department | Zara Porter, Communications & Public Affairs Officer, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission |
| Rosalie Dieleman, Policy Officer, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands | Adrian Pound, Assistant General Counsel, Interserve |
| Darryl Dixon, Director of Strategy, Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority | Charles Reed, Director, The Clewer Initiative |
| Lucy Dobson, Intern, FCO | Alan Rhodes, Leader of the Labour Group, Nottinghamshire County Council |
| Michael Drew, Policy, Home Office | Val Richey, Acting Co-ordinator, OSCE Secretariat |
| Sarah Dumont | Julie Robertson, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Corrections, New Zealand |
| Jenni Edwards, Owner, ESC International | Julien Rolland, Business Area & Sourcing Director, OneMed Group |
| Louise Eldridge, Policy & Communications Officer, CORE Coalition | Kat Rolle, Coordinator, Hertfordshire Modern Slavery Partnership |
| Caroline Emberson, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham | Gareth Rondel, Head of Group Corporate Responsibility, Kier |
| Natalie Evans, Responsible Procurement Manager, City of London Corporation | Andrew Roper, Head of Procurement, The Salvation Army |
| Joanna Ewart-James, Executive Director, Freedom United | Nicole Rosenthal, Procurement and Commercial Manager, Ingeus UK |

| Name / Title / Organisation | Name / Title / Organisation |
|---|--|
| Daniel Eyre, Policy Analyst / Manager, Department for International Development | Tim Rudin, Head of GLA Group Responsible Procurement Team, Greater London Authority / Transport for London |
| Polly Feeney, Commercial Contract Manager, NHS England | Benjamin Rutledge, Senior Advisor, ETI |
| Emma Fletcher, Head of Development & Sustainability, APUC Ltd | Edwina Ryan, Policy Officer, Scottish Government |
| Morgan Flynn, Programme Manager, CPA UK Modern Slavery Project | Jaspal Sandhu, Commercial Business Partner, DFID |
| Natasha Foskett, Modern Slavery Senior Policy Advisor, Cabinet Office | Denise Sayles, Senior Commercial Manager, Ministry of Justice |
| Gemma Freedman, Assistant International Officer, UNISON | Katarina Schwarz, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham |
| Adam Fry, Policy, Home Office | Muhammad Shoaib Zafar, Commercial Counsellor, Pakistan High Commission |
| Emma Gallacher | Rob Shooter, Deputy Head, Procurement and Commercial Department, DFID |
| Matthew Galvin, Responsible Procurement Manager, GLA Group | Martin Smith, Global Organiser, Supply Chain Organising Coalition |
| Ian Gardner, Strategic Sourcing Lead, HMRC | Melysa Sperber, Director of Policy & Government Relations, Humanity United |
| Jesse Garrick, Senior External Affairs Manager, Amey plc | Christian Swan, Director External Engagement, Philip Morris International |
| Steve Gibbons, Director, Ergon Associates | Russell Symes, Strategic Supplier Relationship Manager, Department of Education |
| David Gigg, Head of Policy Delivery, Crown Commercial Service | David Tang, Policy Advisor, Department for International Trade |
| Hetty Gittus, Analyst, Sancroft International | Simon Tapson, Commercial Officer, Department for International Trade |
| Porter Glock, Procurement Analyst | Stephanie Taviner, CSR Lead, SAP |
| Anne Fleur Goedegebuure, Consultant, GoodCorporation | John Teixeira, Modern Slavery Policy Support, Cabinet Office |
| Pauline Göthberg, National Coordinator, Swedish County Councils | Axel Threlfall, Editor at Large, Reuters |
| Steve Greig, Client Director, NQC Ltd. | Martin Toomey, Ethical and Sustainability Lead, NHS Supply Chain |

| Name / Title / Organisation | Name / Title / Organisation |
|--|--|
| Tatiana Gren-Jardan, Director of Strategy, IASC | Denise Tully, Principal, Office of Government Procurement |
| Simon Harman, Ethics & Data Protection Manager, ENGIE | Eddie Tuttle, Director Policy, Research & Public Affairs, CIOB |
| Kornilia Hatzinikolaou, Scientific Adviser, Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings, Ministry of FO | Samantha Ulyatt, Commercial Director, Crown Commercial Service |
| Guy Head, Adviser, Local Government Association | Jessica Verdon, Social Sustainability Manager, SAP |
| Caitlin Helfrich, Global Supply Chains Specialist, ILO | Imke Vonalt, Policy Officer, The Federal Minister of the Interior, Building and Community |
| Olivia Hesketh, Senior Policy Adviser, Home Office | Eliza Ward, Senior Advisor: Business Development, ETI |
| Cath Hill, Group Director, CIPS | Lynsey Warren, Commercial Standards and Policy Manager, Department for International Trade |
| Neil Hipps, Academic Liaison Lead, JSaRC | Mohammed Wasim, Senior Commercial Advisor, Foreign and Commonwealth Office |
| Emma Hoddinott, Local Government Officer, The Co-op Party | Martin Wayman, Head of CR, ISS UK |
| Samantha Hughes, Commercial Policy, DfT | Rachel Westwood, Contracts Manager, Northrop Grumman UK Limited |
| Sue Hurrell, Special Projects Manager, Welsh Government | Darran Whatley, Head of Responsible Procurement, London Universities Purchasing Consortium |
| Saba Hussain | Neill Wilkins, Head of Migrant Worker Programme, Institute for Human Rights and Business |
| Snowia Hussain, Responsible Procurement Lead, City of Westminster | Thomas Wills, Policy Adviser, Traidcraft Exchange |
| Samantha Ireland, Head of Business Change, Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority | Rachel Wilshaw, Ethical Trade Manager, Oxfam |
| Kim Jackson, Events Organiser, ETI | Lola Young, Member, House of Lords |
| Kate Jelly, Researcher, Ergon Associates | Fiori Zafeiropoulou, Country Coordinator, Fashion Revolution Greece |
| Aleyne Johnson, Director of Government & External Relations, Samsung | |

ANNEX 4:

ETI BACKGROUND BRIEFING

2019 International Conference on Tackling Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Public Sector Supply Chains



An estimated 40.3m people are in situations of forced labour and modern slavery globally. At least 16 million of these are working in the private sector and 4 million in forced labour imposed by state authorities. They are working in high-risk sectors such as agriculture, apparel, construction, catering, cleaning and extractives. The majority of those vulnerable or subject to modern slavery are women, children, or migrant workers on precarious contracts: denied the freedom to choose or leave their employers, facing threat and coercion, often deceived, in situations of debt bondage, but desperate for jobs to support their families. They come from or work in countries where governance and the rule of law are weak, and where workers lack protection and the ability to access their basic rights as workers.

Global supply chains are complex and multi-layered. Victims of modern slavery tend to be found in the lower ends of supply chains in jobs that are low-skilled, low-paid and precarious. As a result of transparency and due diligence legislation, public pressure and media exposés, some large multi-nationals are taking action to address modern slavery in their operations and supply chains. However, many companies – particularly small and medium sized companies – are not aware of the steps they need to take to mitigate and prevent modern slavery from occurring in their businesses and with their commercial partners and are at early stages of their ethical trade journey. Many of these companies provide goods and services to the public sector but feel no pressure from these public bodies to change the way they conduct business or to manage human rights risks.

The case for focusing on public procurement

In every country around the world, governments procure goods and services, yet few have ethical procurement standards in place to manage and mitigate the risks of modern slavery. It is estimated that the average government spends 12 – 24% of GDP on public procurement at federal and local levels. Because of the scale and scope of public procurement, governments and public bodies have considerable leverage over their suppliers, which presents opportunities to drive improved responsible business practices without any significant cost burdens. It requires

political leadership, commitment, expertise and appropriate procurement policies and practices to manage and monitor ethical standards in their supply chains. The main burden of responsibility for human rights due diligence should be borne by the private sector suppliers.

In September 2017, the UK Government spearheaded a [Call to Action on Modern Slavery](#) at the General Assembly. 85 countries have now signed up to this. A year later, 2018, at the UN General Assembly, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the USA made a joint public commitment to eradicating modern slavery from their global supply chains. [Four Principles](#) were agreed. This commitment will harness the combined purchasing power of more than \$600 billion annually – to prevent forced labour from occurring in both public and private sector supply chains. The Principles are:

- Governments should take steps to prevent and address human trafficking in government procurement practices
- Governments should encourage the private sector to prevent and address human trafficking in its supply chains
- Governments should advance responsible recruitment policies and practices
- Governments should strive for harmonisation

Government Spend: the scale of public procurement in five countries

In 2016/17, the UK public sector spent an estimated £255 billion with external suppliers – which accounts for about a third of public spending. Most of this spending – £195 billion – was on purchases of goods and services. In 2013, public procurement spend accounted for approximately \$31 billion (15% of GDP) for New Zealand, \$221 billion (13% of GDP) for Canada, \$169 billion (13% of GDP) for Australia and \$1.7 trillion (9% of GDP) for the USA.¹ A total in excess of \$2 trillion USD.

Some important initiatives to date

The important steps taken at the UNGA follow a small but growing number of initiatives to address modern slavery in public procurement. The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) undertook an extra-budgetary programme to build awareness and share expertise amongst its member states, and produce a set of [Model Guidelines on Government Measures to Prevent Trafficking for Labour Exploitation in Supply Chains](#) (which were published in February 2018). The initiative was supported by Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the US. One of the workshops was hosted by the UK Home Office. The Ethical Trading Initiative actively contributed and participated in the project. It was agreed that the Guidelines should be piloted and implemented by Member States.

The European Union has just produced a [Corporate Social Responsibility, Responsible Business Conduct, and Business & Human Rights: Overview of Progress](#) document. It is worth a read and includes reference to the [EU Directive on Non-Financial Reporting 2015](#) which includes requirements for annual reporting on human rights that are applicable to large companies but have also been used by public bodies. There is also a [European Directive on Public Procurement](#). The first principle requires contracting authorities to treat ‘economic operators’ equally and

without discrimination and to act transparently and proportionally. Economic operators are suppliers of goods, services and works on the market.

The second principle requires member states to take appropriate steps to ensure that, in performing public contracts, economic operators comply with applicable obligations in the field of environmental, social, and labour law including the ILO core conventions. The ILO's eight ['core' conventions](#) prohibit forced labour, child labour, and workplace discrimination, and provide for freedom of association, the right to organise, and collective bargaining. All EU member states have ratified them.

In addition, there are a number of individual public bodies around the world that have taken proactive steps to address modern slavery in their procurement policies and systems. But there is a very long way to go, and public bodies are far behind some private sector companies in conducting human rights due diligence and using their significant leverage to mitigate risk and drive positive change.

In the UK, the Cabinet Office is running a public [consultation](#) on maximising social value in Government procurement. The consultation seeks feedback on how government should take account of social value in the award of central government contracts, including proposed questions on modern slavery which is a key priority area.

In early 2019, the US Government amended its Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to include a [definition of 'recruitment fees'](#). The FAR System governs the 'acquisition process' by which executive agencies of the US federal government purchase or lease goods and services. Under the FAR, any government (sub-)contractors, and their employees or agents, are prohibited from charging employees recruitment fees, but 'recruitment fees' were not defined. The new definition, following an extensive consultation process, is comprehensive and likely to be influential.

This adds to the passage of the US Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act (H.R. 644) in early 2016. This Act closed a loophole in existing law, rendering the importation of goods made with forced labour into the US illegal. The Act [has already been put to use](#) by the US Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to seize shipments of goods suspected of having been produced with forced labour. The burden of proof is on the importing company to show that there was no forced labour in the production of the goods. The CBP have published a [Fact Sheet](#) informing companies that may be affected about how to improve their due diligence.

One of the resources the CBP highlight is the [Responsible Sourcing Tool](#) that the US State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons published in collaboration with Verité, Made in a Free World, and the Aspen Institute. This Tool provides a way for any companies, contractors, procurement officials or investors to evaluate the risk of human trafficking in supply chains by sector or geographical area.

Additional information

- **Independent Review of MSA:** the first interim report (on the role of [the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner](#)) and the second interim report (on [Transparency in Supply Chains](#)) have both been published. The final report is expected by the end of March. The Review has

called for the Commissioner role to be more independent in governance and funding. On TISC, key recommendations included: establishing a list of companies in scope of Section 54 of the MSA; requiring statements to include mandatory content; extending Section 54 to the public sector; establishing a public repository of modern slavery statements.

- **Environmental Audit Committee:** the inquiry into [Fixing fashion: clothing consumption and sustainability](#) has now reported, and includes recommendations on modern slavery: that there should be a public list of those companies required to produce a modern slavery statement and that there should be adequate penalties for those who fail to report.
- **The Home Affairs Select Committee:** its [inquiry](#) into the MSA is nearing completion and we expect it to report soon; we expect that it will advocate for reform of the legislation, perhaps along similar lines to the Independent Review.
- **Government transparency statement:** the UK Government has [announced](#) that later this year it will publish its own modern slavery statement. ETI has been providing technical and expert advice to the Home Office and Cabinet Office on their Modern Slavery Supplier Assessment Tool, and on their Guidance to all government departments on modern slavery. These should be issued shortly.

The Ethical Trading Initiative's work with relevance to public procurement

The Ethical Trading Initiative is a 20-year old multi-stakeholder organisation established to tackle labour exploitation and abuse in global supply chains. Its members comprise 80 companies – many of which are well-known brands and retailers – trade unions and civil society organisations. Responsible companies commit to tackling complex challenges and demonstrate improvements in labour rights for workers against the [ETI Base Code](#), a set of nine labour standards based on ILO Conventions. ETI supports companies to demonstrate good practice against [Human Rights Due Diligence](#), in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

- Of direct relevance to this conference, ETI has also produced [Guidance on Modern Slavery](#), [Child Labour](#), [Responsible Purchasing Practices](#) and [Business Models and Labour Practices: Making the Connection](#)
- Launched in December 2018, Cindy Berman and Ergon Associates co-authored a [Good Practice Guidance to Tackling Modern Slavery](#) for the private sector on behalf of the IFC, DFID, CDC and EBRD – aimed at development finance institutions and private companies.
- **ETI has published its own [Modern Slavery Statement](#)** which was approved by the Board and benefited from a peer review and consultation with our members, NGOs, trade unions, academics and experts. It provides an example of good practice as a small organisation not required to report under the UK Modern Slavery Act.
- **[ETI's Modern Slavery Evaluation Framework](#)** is being used by a wide range of organisations – aimed both at companies writing their statements and those reviewing Modern Slavery Statements – civil society organisations, investors, other companies, academics and parliamentarians. An online interactive version will soon be available – watch this space.
- ETI is leading a new initiative to **develop [Access to Remedy Principles for Vulnerable Workers](#)** (particularly migrants). This work is a specific output of the [ETI Migrant Labour Working Group](#), which addresses the situation of vulnerable migrant workers around the world (e.g. in Turkey, Mauritius, India, China and Malaysia). The approach and principles will be piloted in Malaysia where there are estimated to be 1.7 million migrant workers, many of whom are undocumented and subject to egregious exploitation and abuse in the electronics, furniture, apparel and rubber gloves sectors, amongst others.

- ETI's research and multi-stakeholder engagement programme **on Tackling Child Labour and Modern Slavery in Pakistan's Surgical Instruments Sector** is underway and should provide a strong case study for tackling endemic issues in public health procurement, involving international buyers, suppliers, industry bodies in Europe and Pakistan, as well as NGOs, trade unions and other stakeholders. There is an International Advisory Committee to review and advise on this work, which is being managed through our partnership with PILER in Pakistan, and involves key procurement partners in Sweden, Norway and the UK.